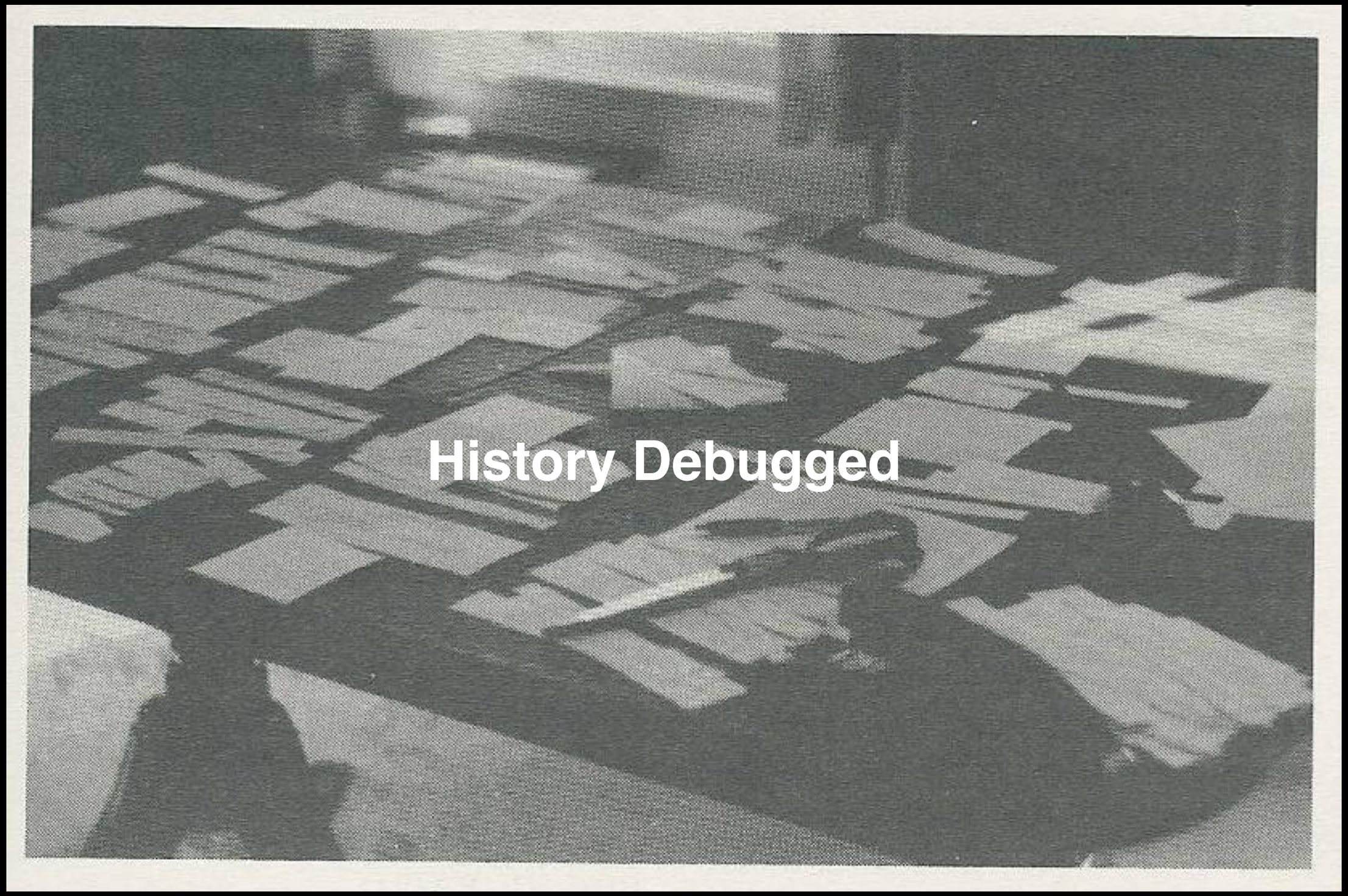
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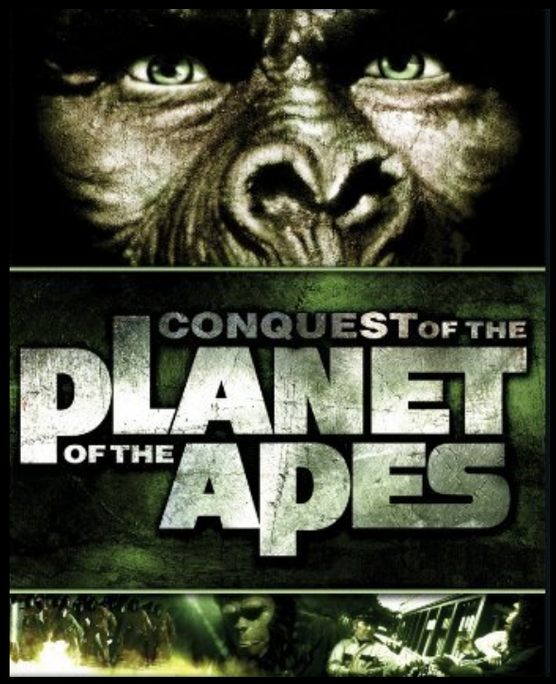
DANIEL ROSENBERG AND SUSAN HARDING, EDITORS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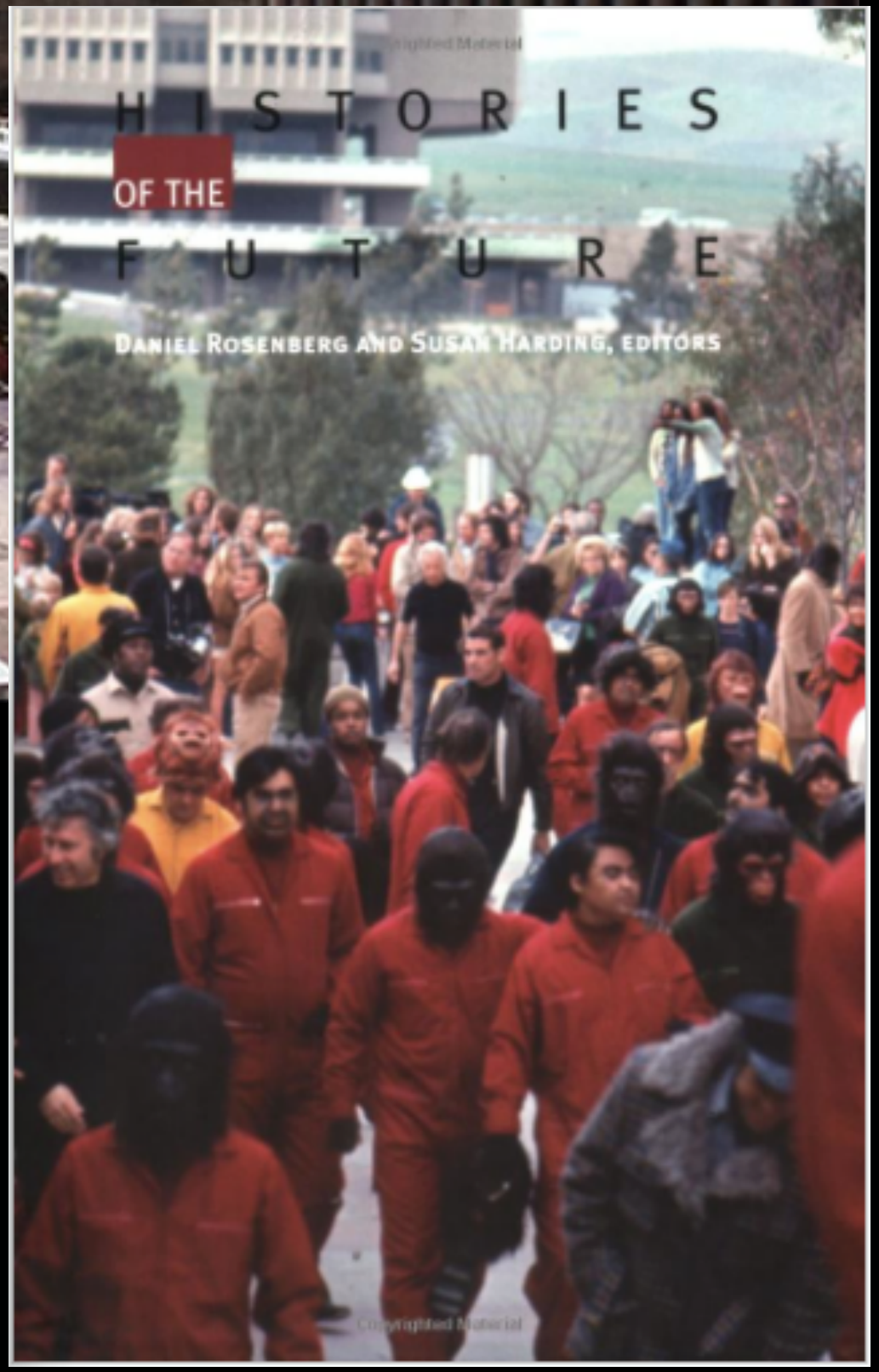
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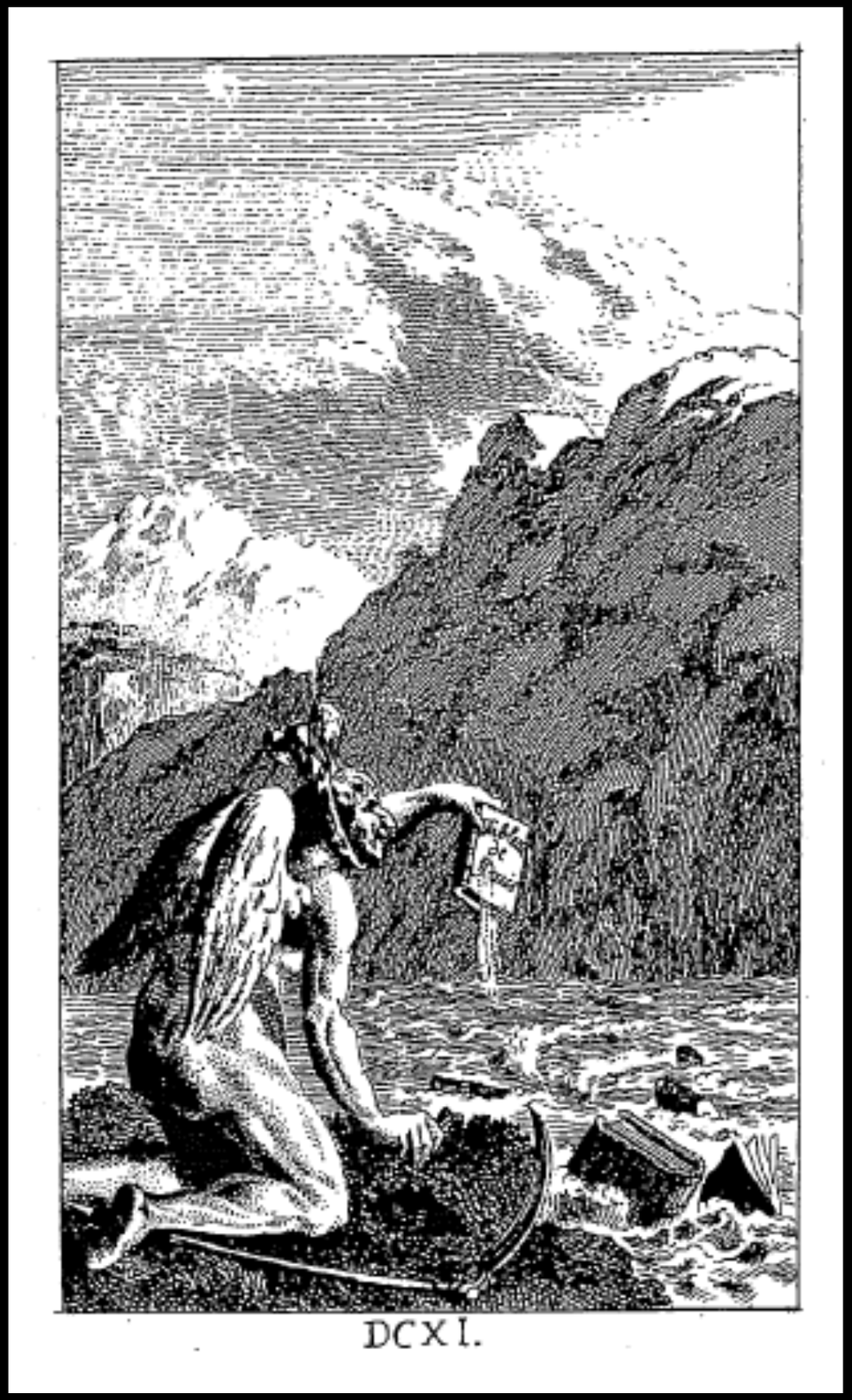
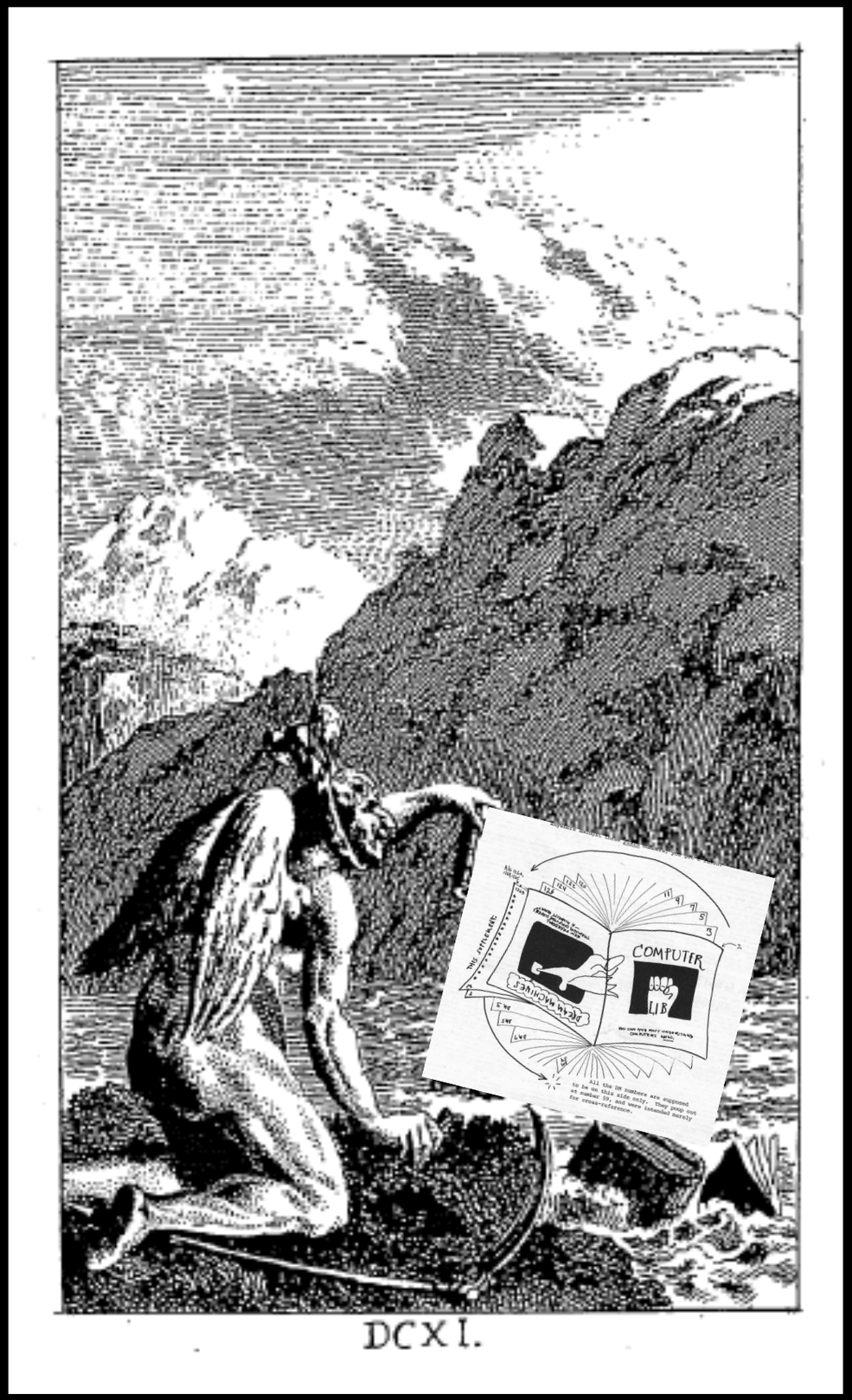
In a distant future, an angel rescues Mercier's book from the flood of time.

L.S. Mercier, *Tableau de Paris* (1782-88)



In a distant future, an angel rescues Nelson's book from the flood of time.

L.S. Mercier, *Tableau de Paris* (1782-88)

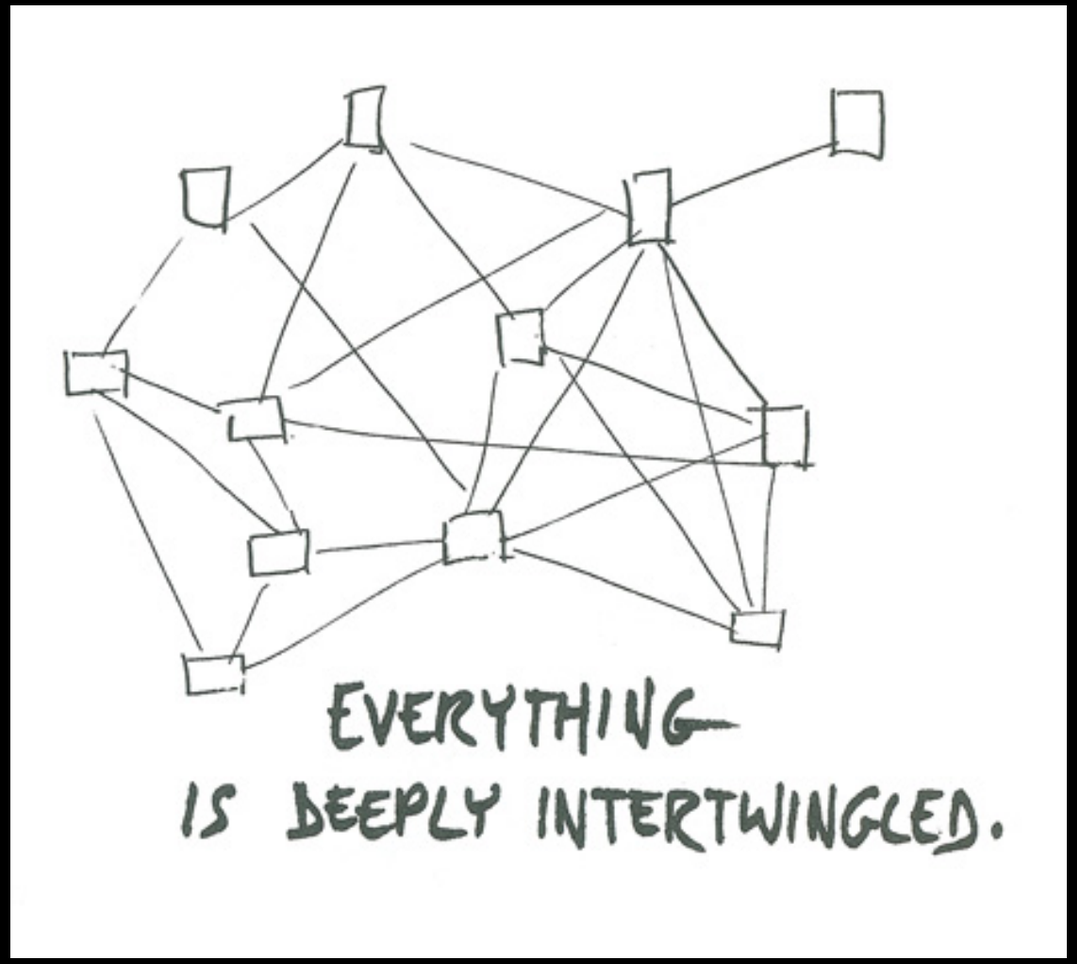


“What a moment! and what an era it promised! … Drunk with so much hope for the progress of reason, it prophesied a Jerusalem of philosophy that would last more than 1000 years.”

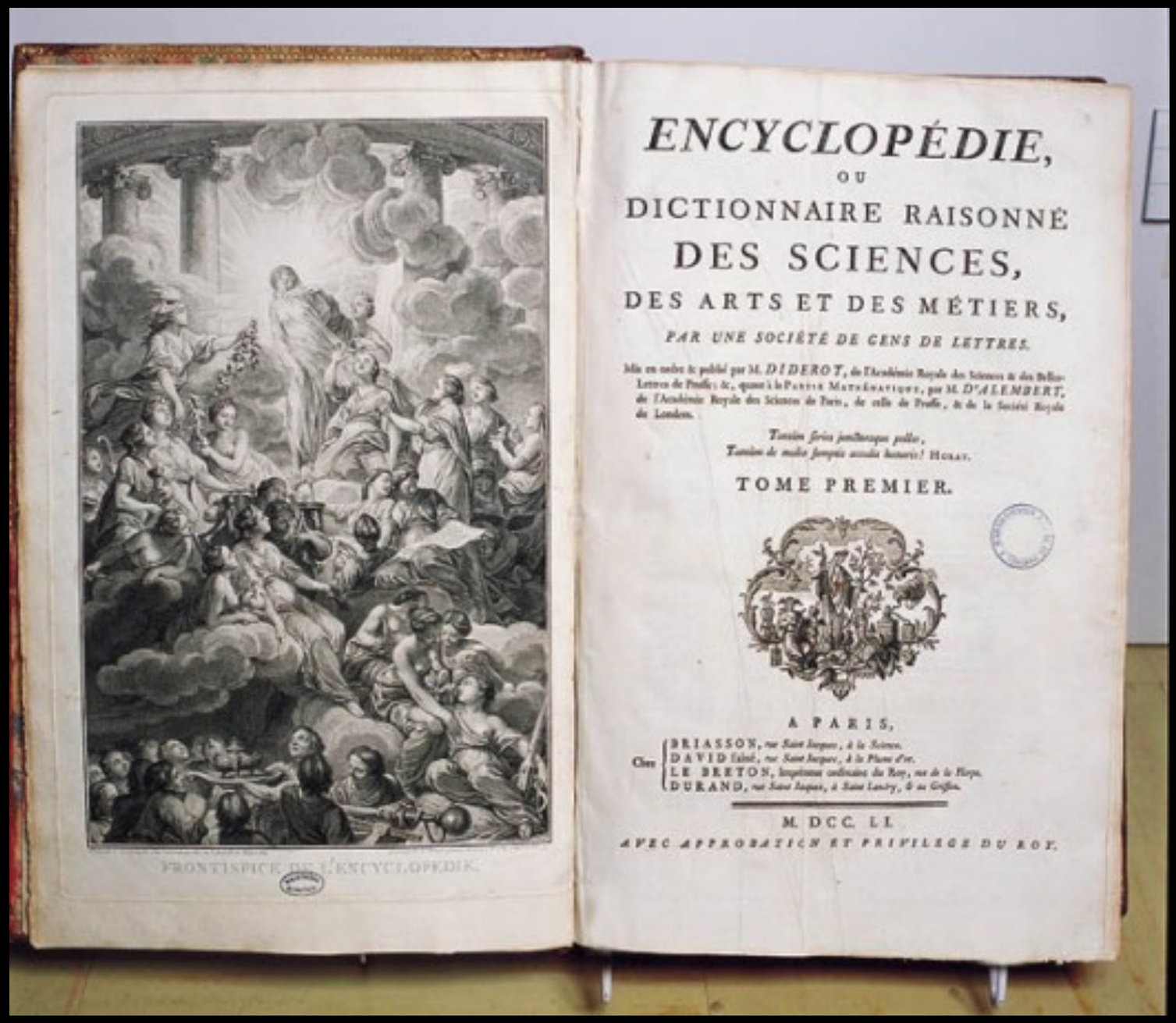
—journalist, Jean-Baptiste Suard, on the impact of the *Encyclopédie* (1751-72)

Within bodies of writing, everywhere, there are linkages we tend not to see. The individual document, at hand, is what we deal with; we do not see the total linked collection of them all at once. But they are there, the documents not present as well as those that are, and the grand cat's-cradle among them all.

—Ted Nelson, *Literary Machines*



Encyclopédie, ou Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers
edited by Denis Diderot and Jean le Rond d'Alembert, 1751-72



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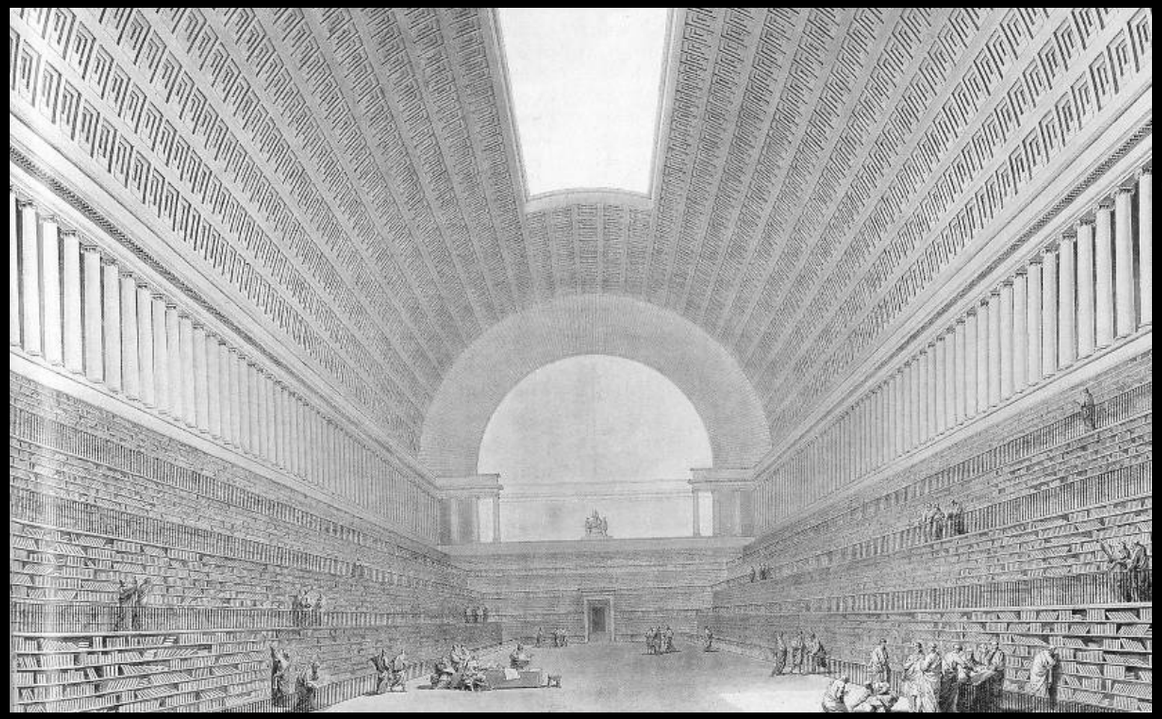
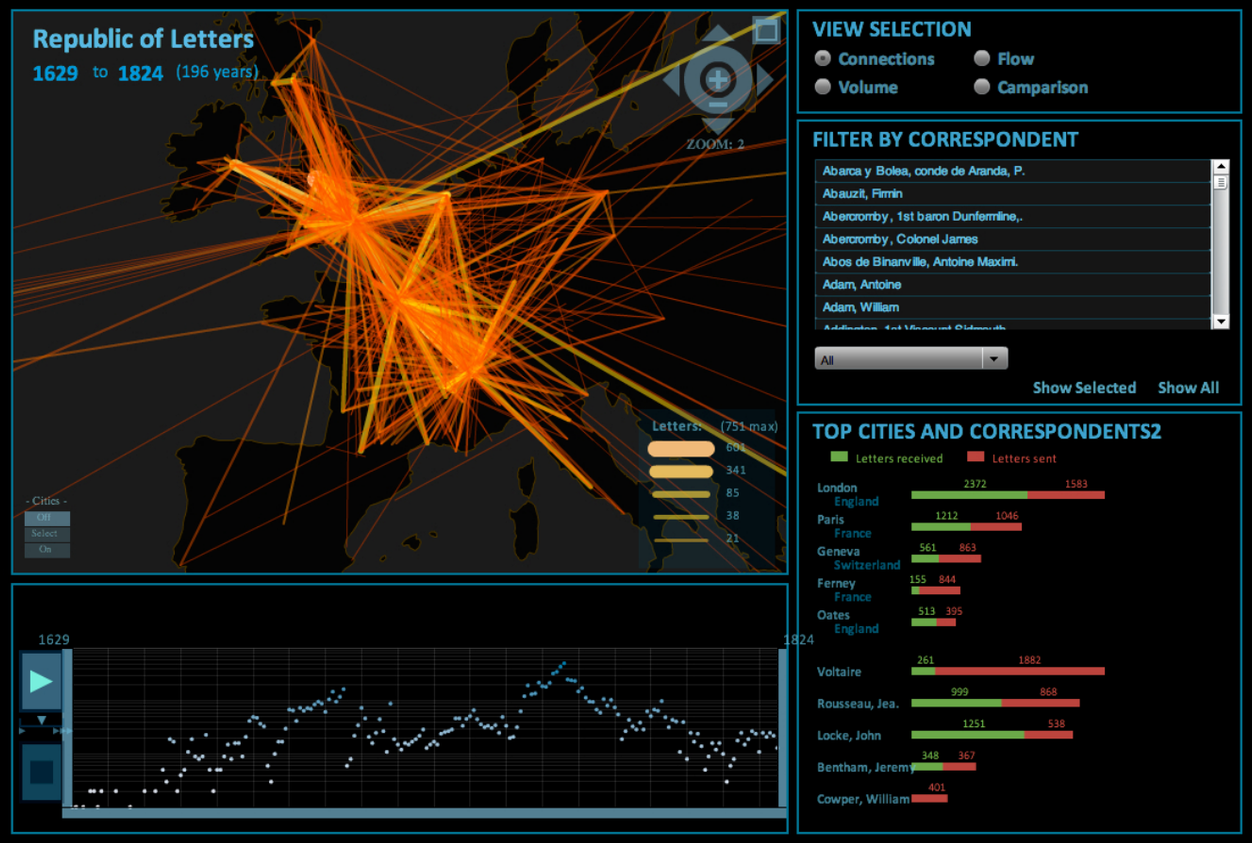


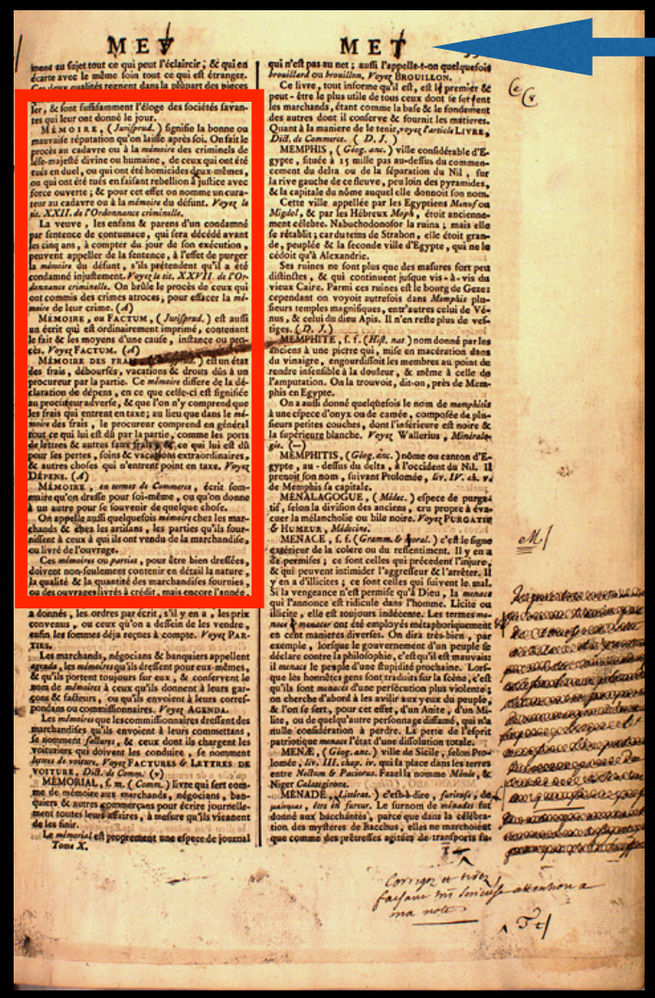
Etienne Louis Boullée
plan for a royal library
about 1780

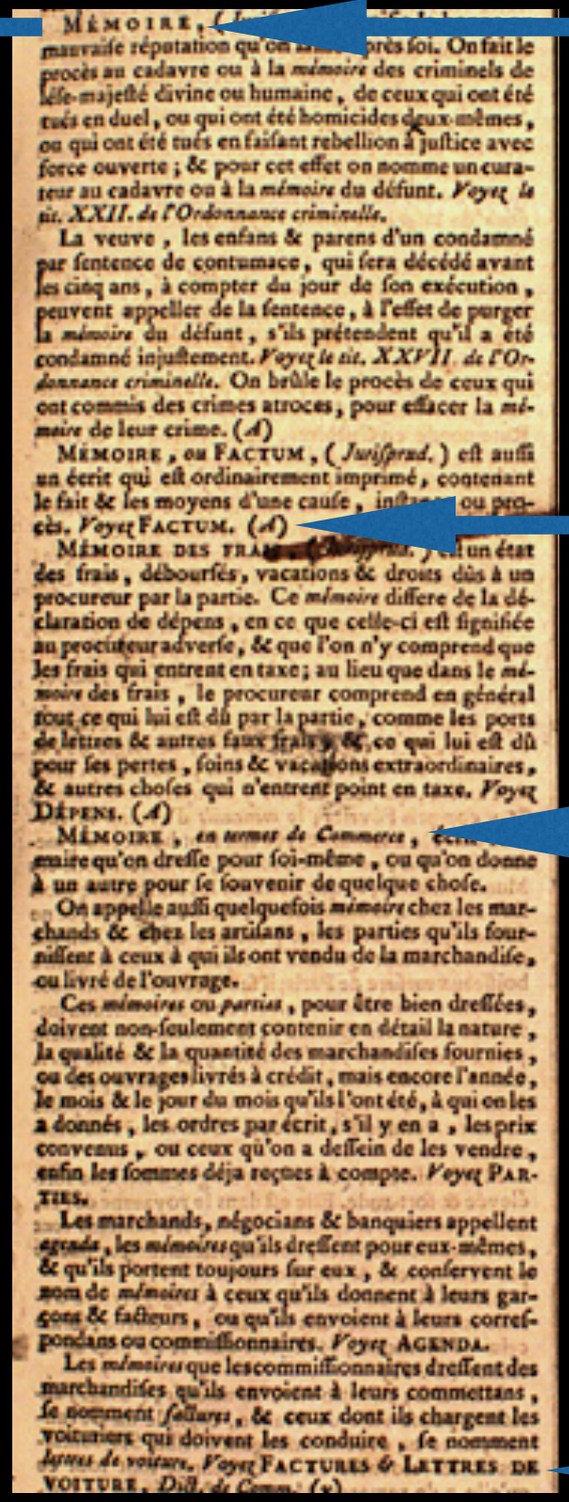


density map for correspondence
among eighteenth-century European
scholars 1629-1824
from Mapping the Republic of
Letters (Stanford University)

The eighteenth-century scandal sheet
Charles Théveneau de Morande,
Gazetier cuirassé, 1771

“It will be almost as convenient to search for some bit of truth concealed in nature as it will be to find it hidden away in an immense multitude of bound volumes.”





keyword (alphabetical)

renvois (cross-reference)

subject classification

external reference

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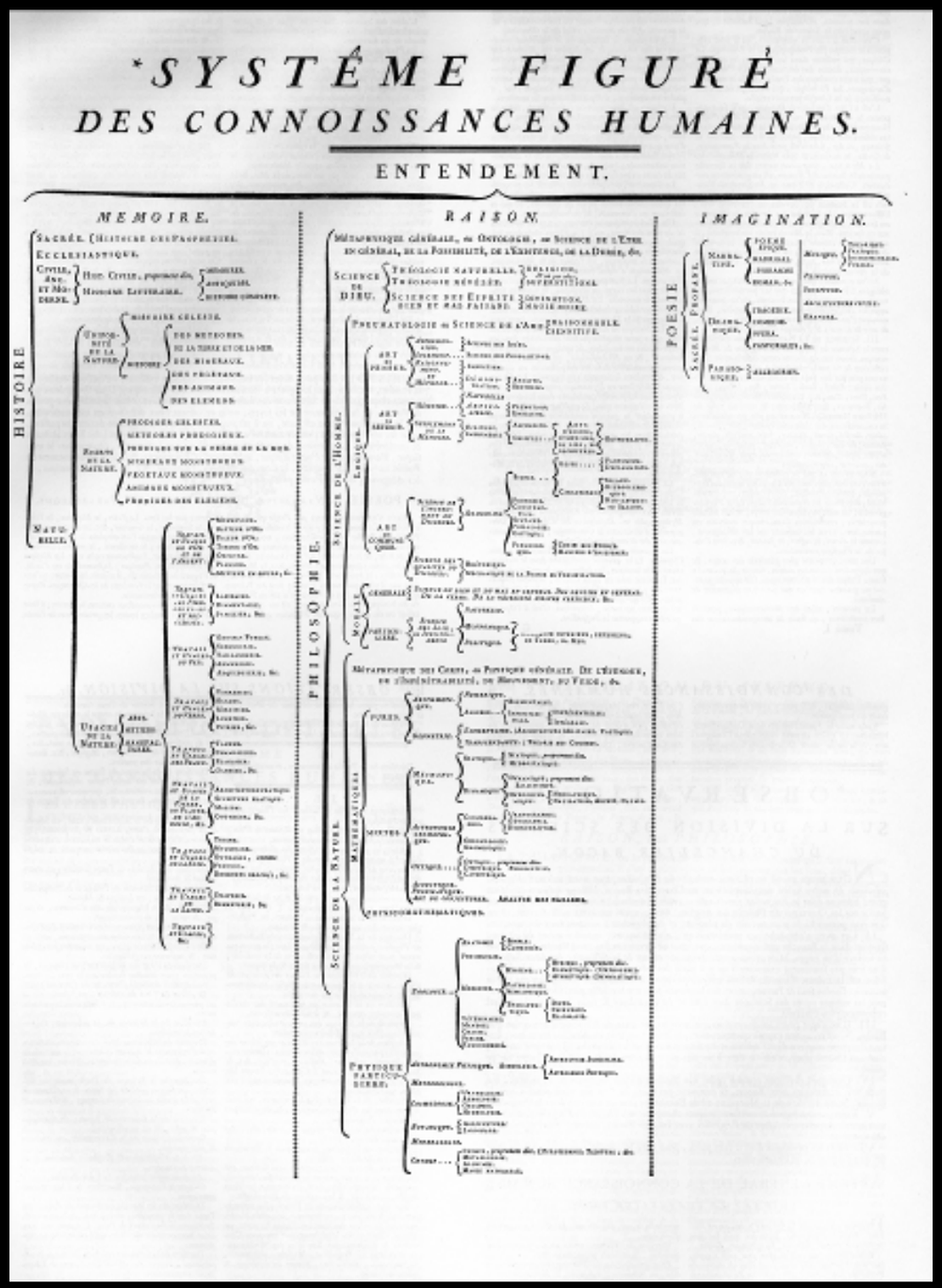
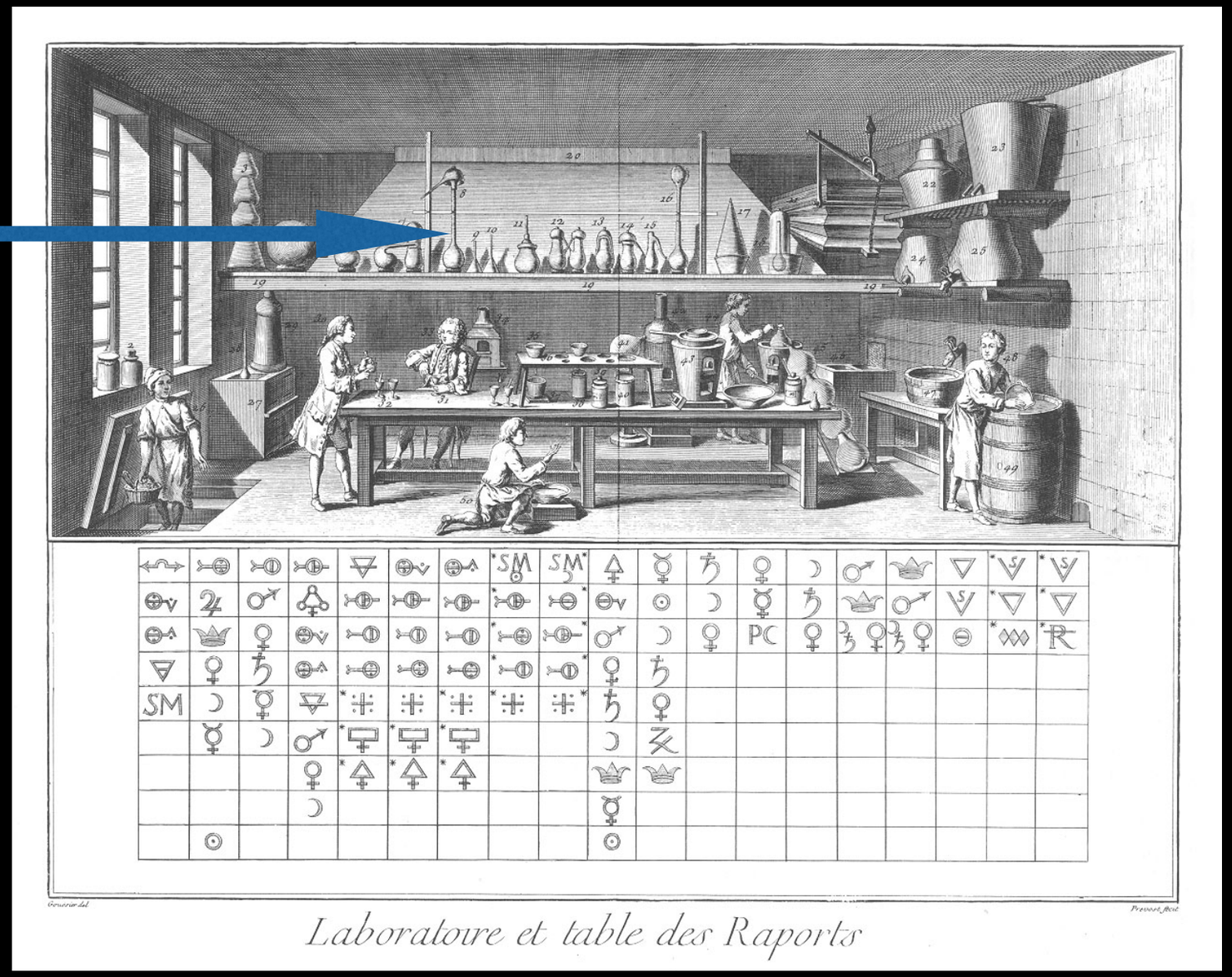
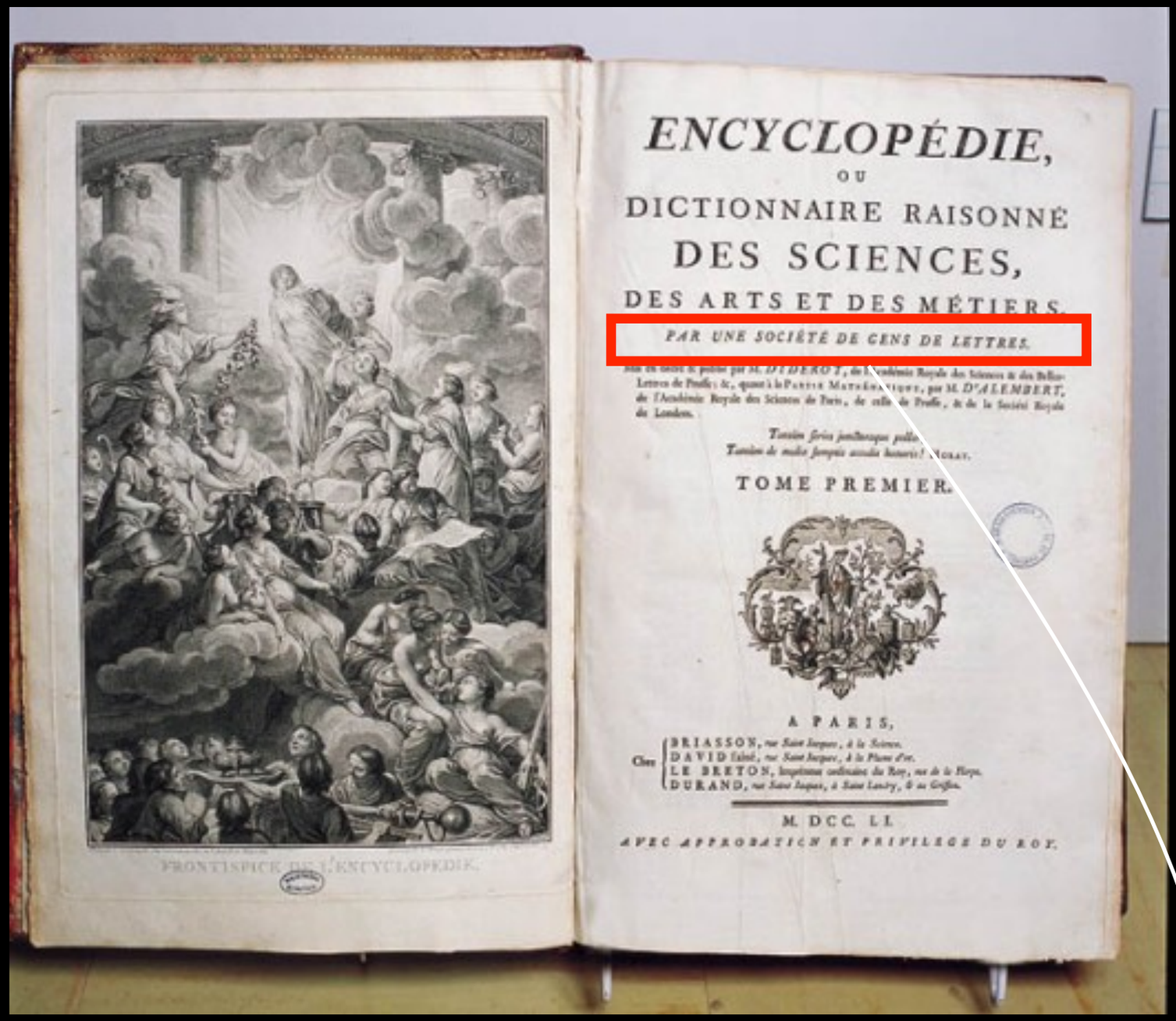
a plate from the
Encyclopédie

reference numbers





tree of knowledge
heuristic from the
Encyclopédie



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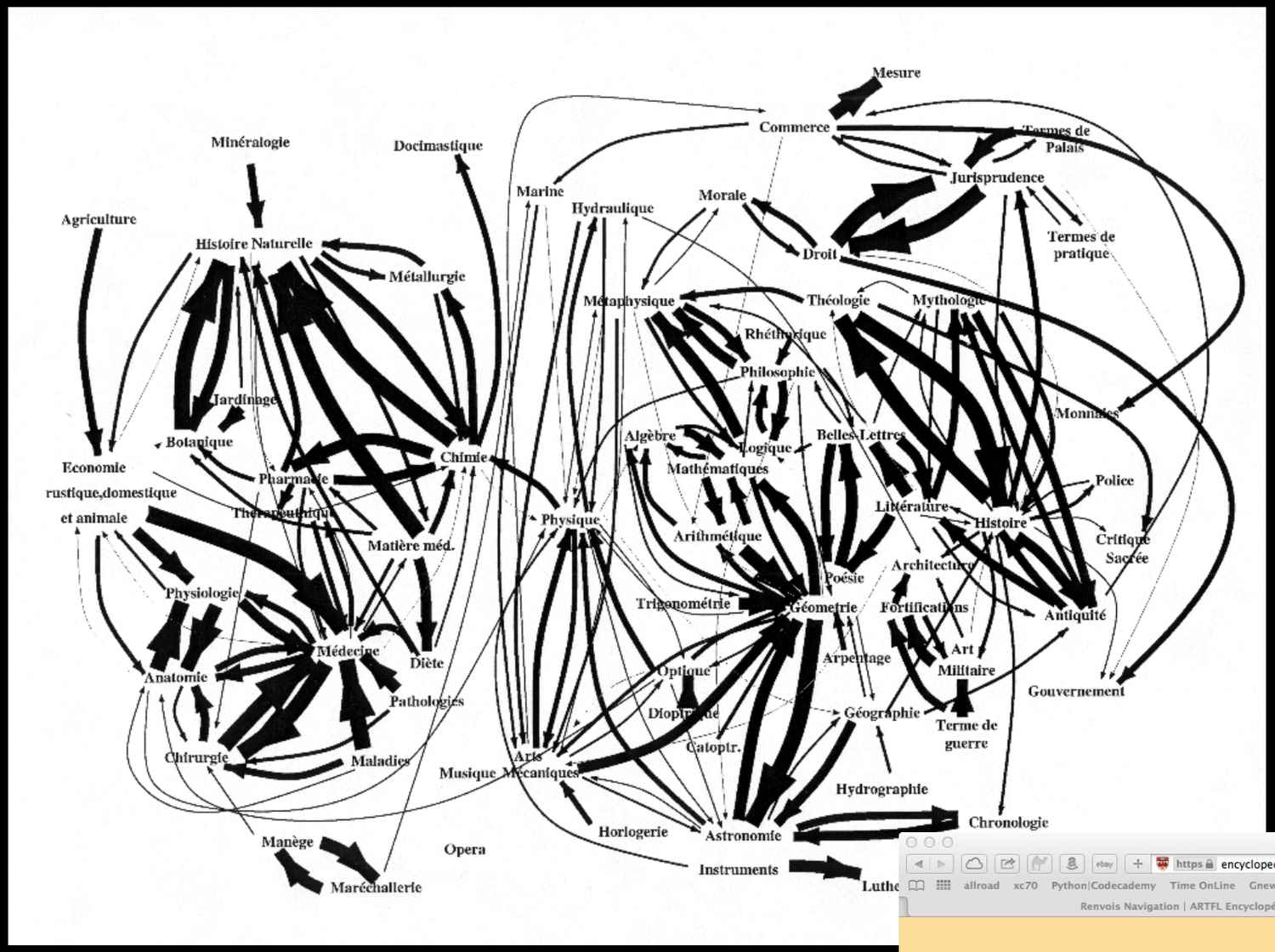
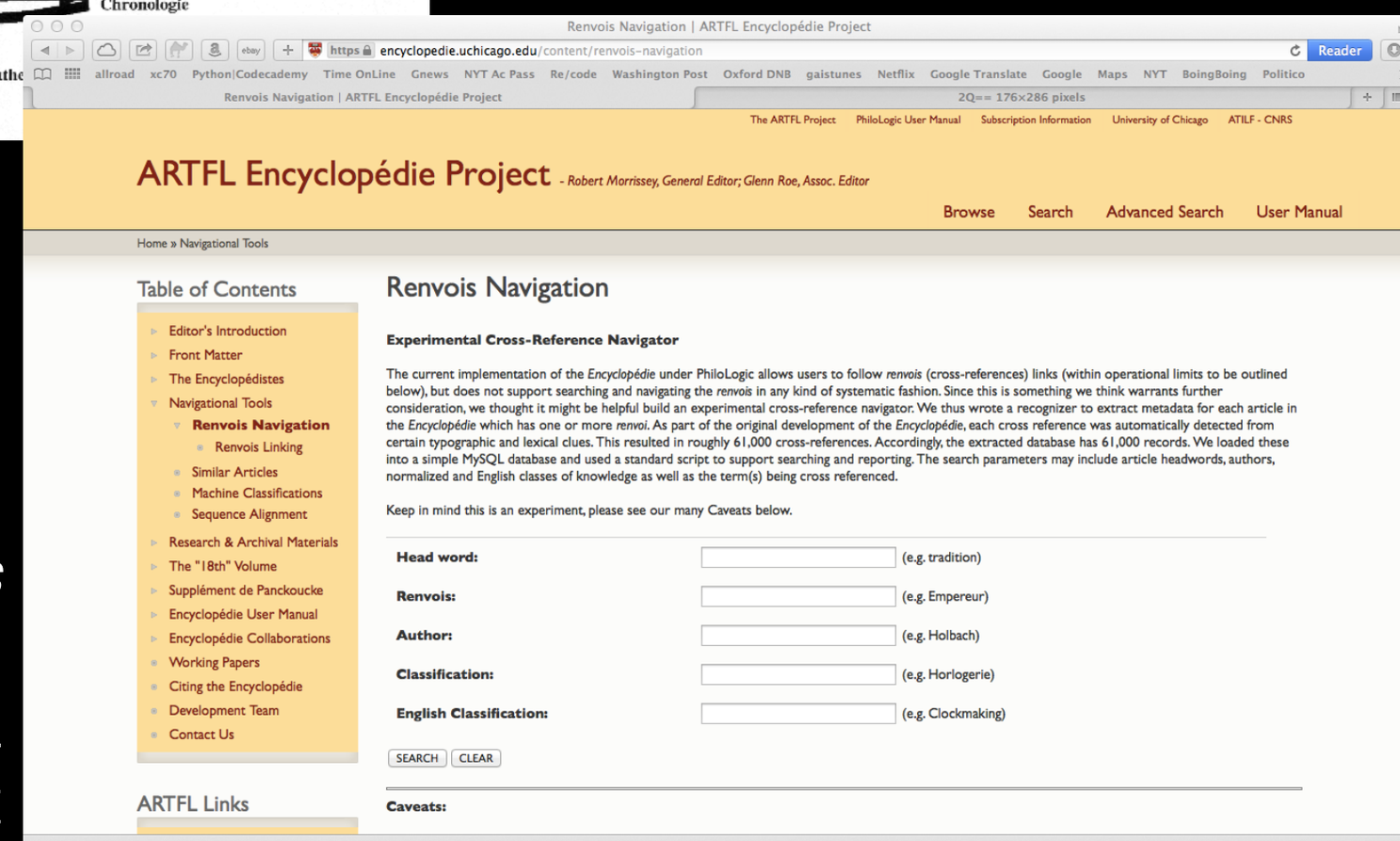
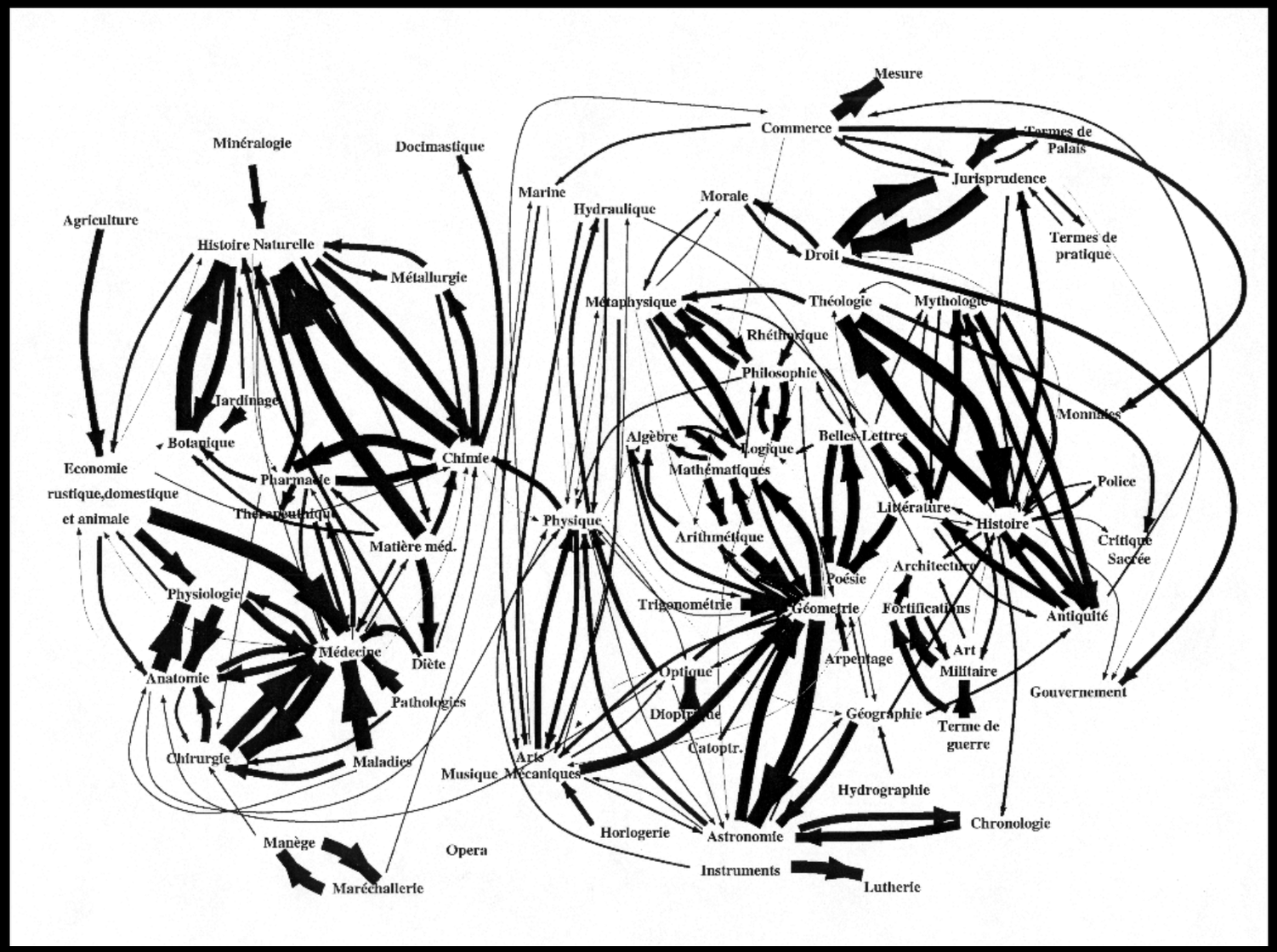


map of *renvois* (cross-references) in the *Encyclopédie*, ARTFL Encyclopédie Project



electronic *renvois* navigator in the *Encyclopédie*, ARTFL Encyclopédie Project



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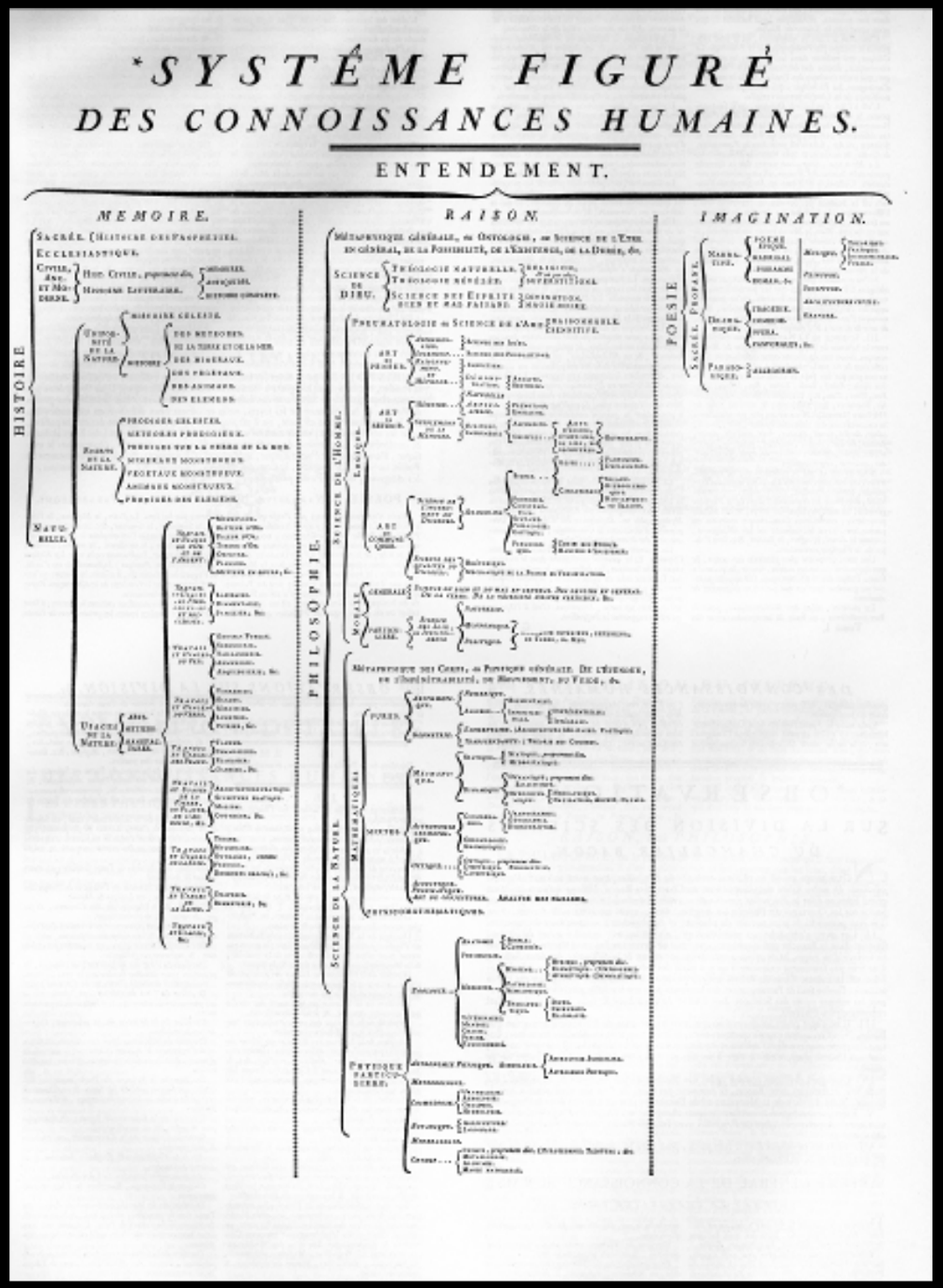
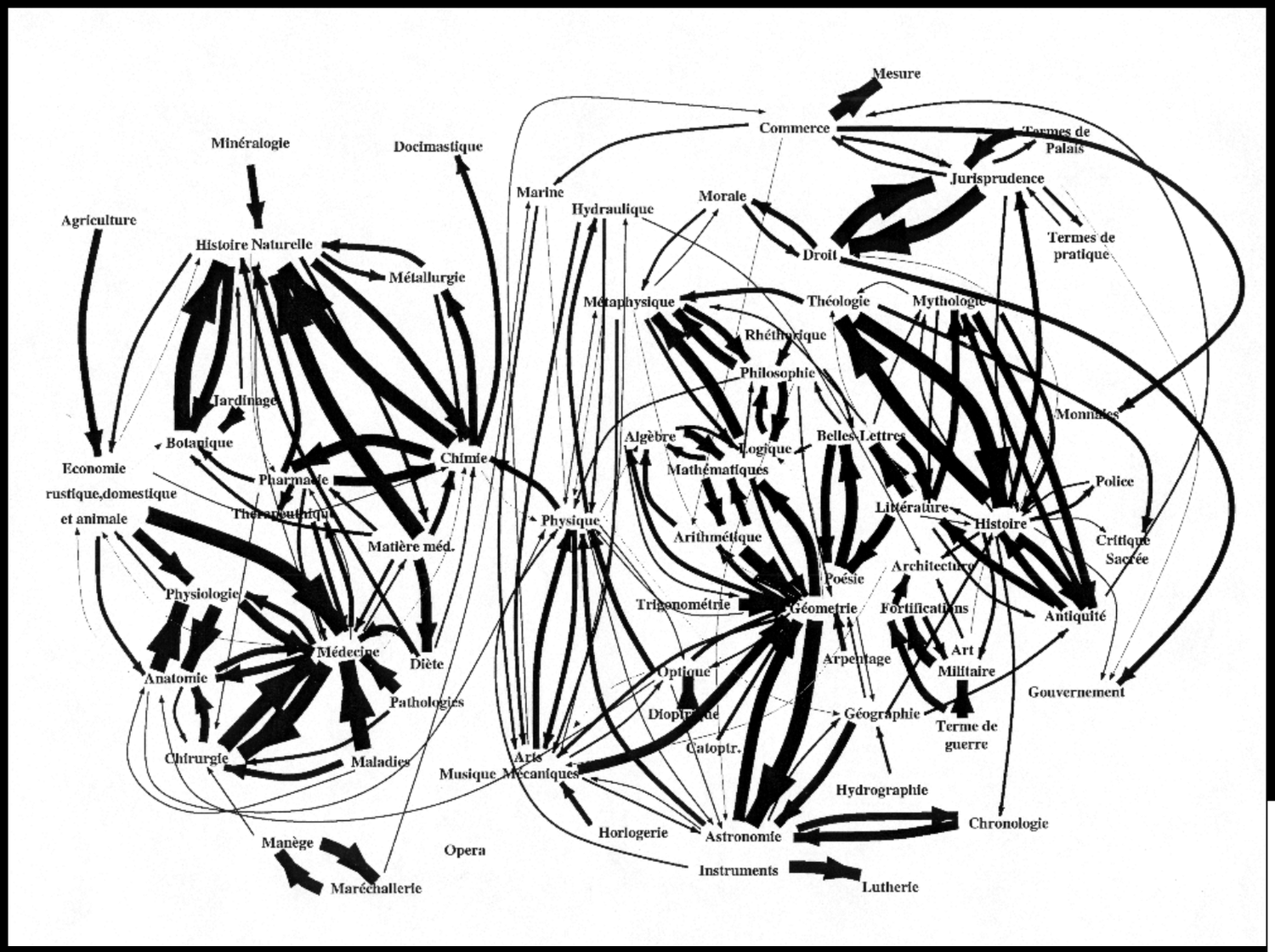


tree of knowledge heuristic from the *Encyclopédie*



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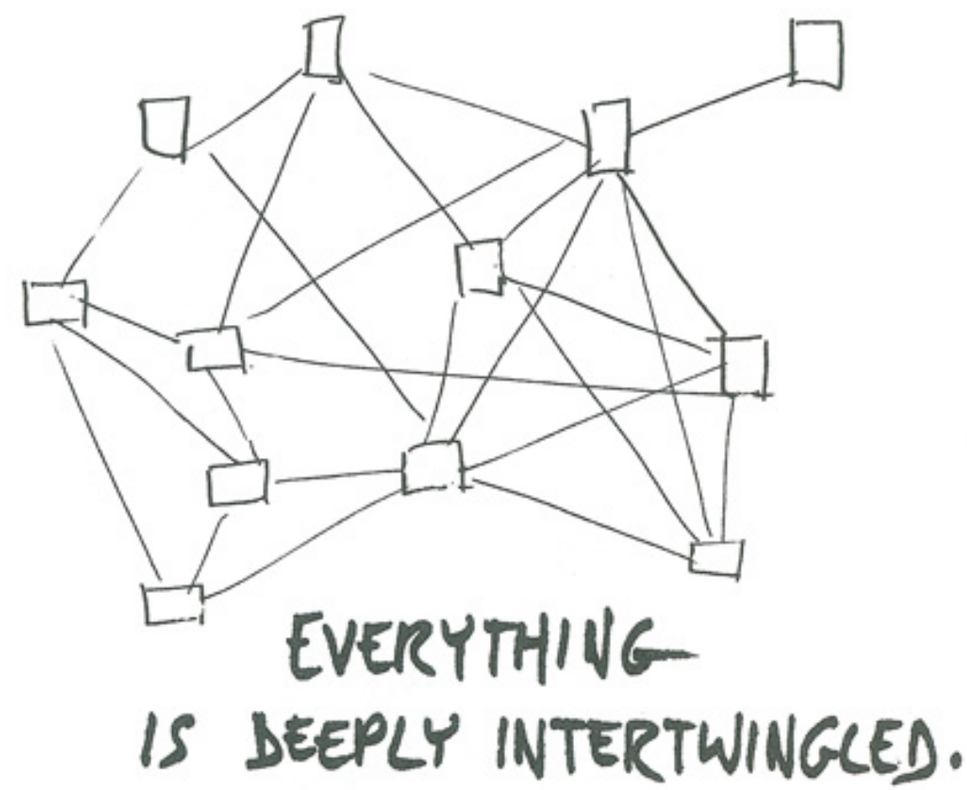

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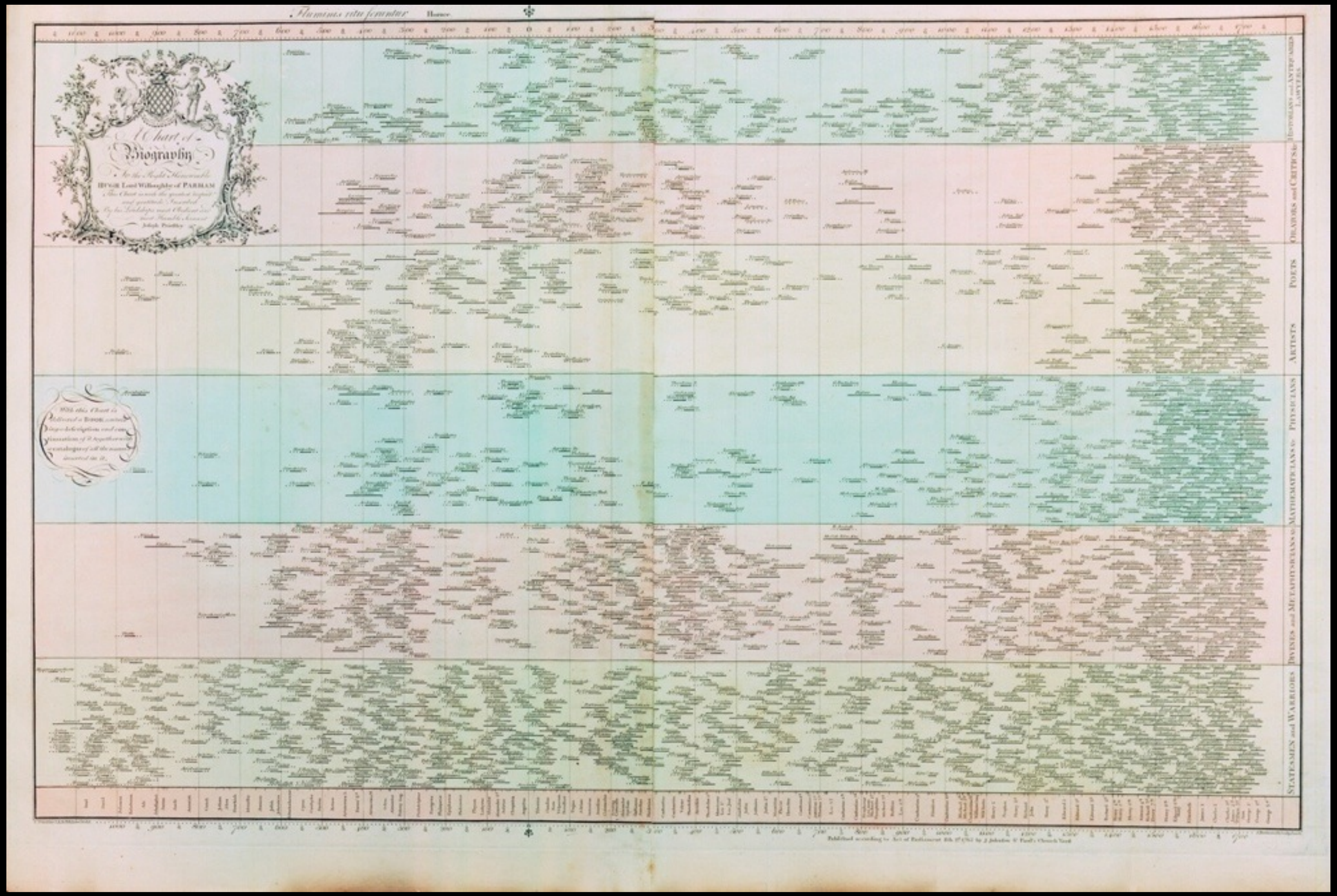
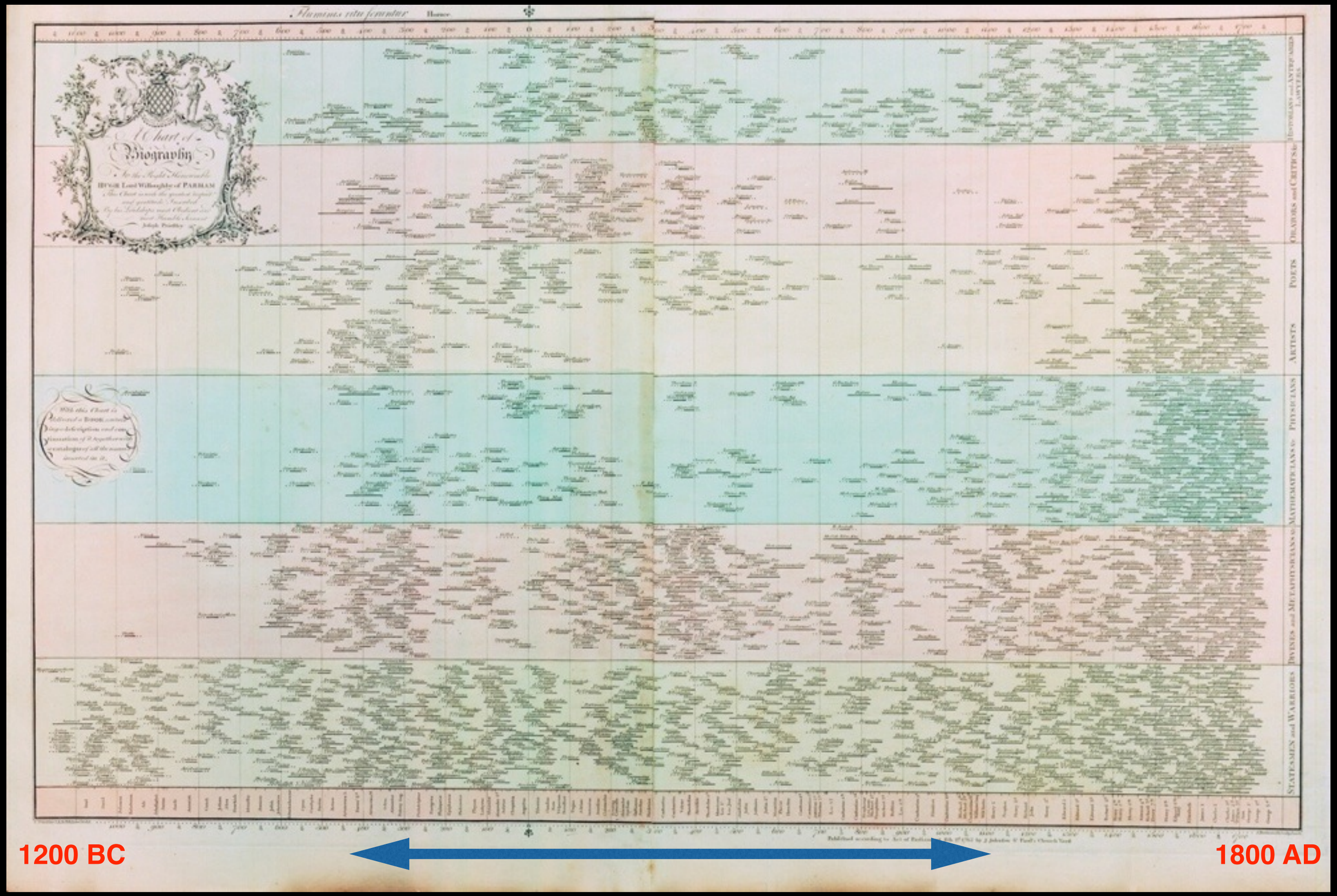


A Chart of Biography, Joseph Priestley, 1765



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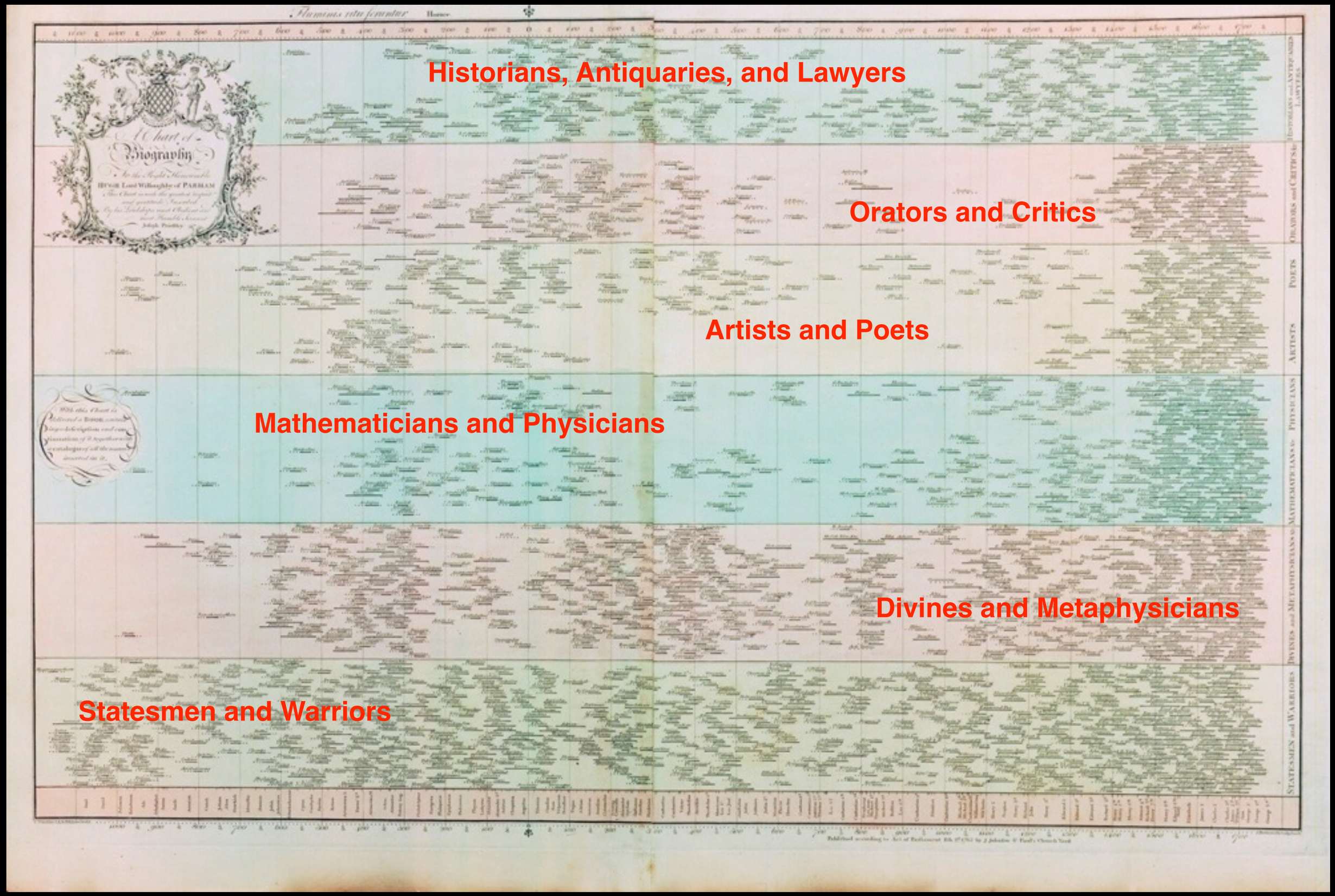

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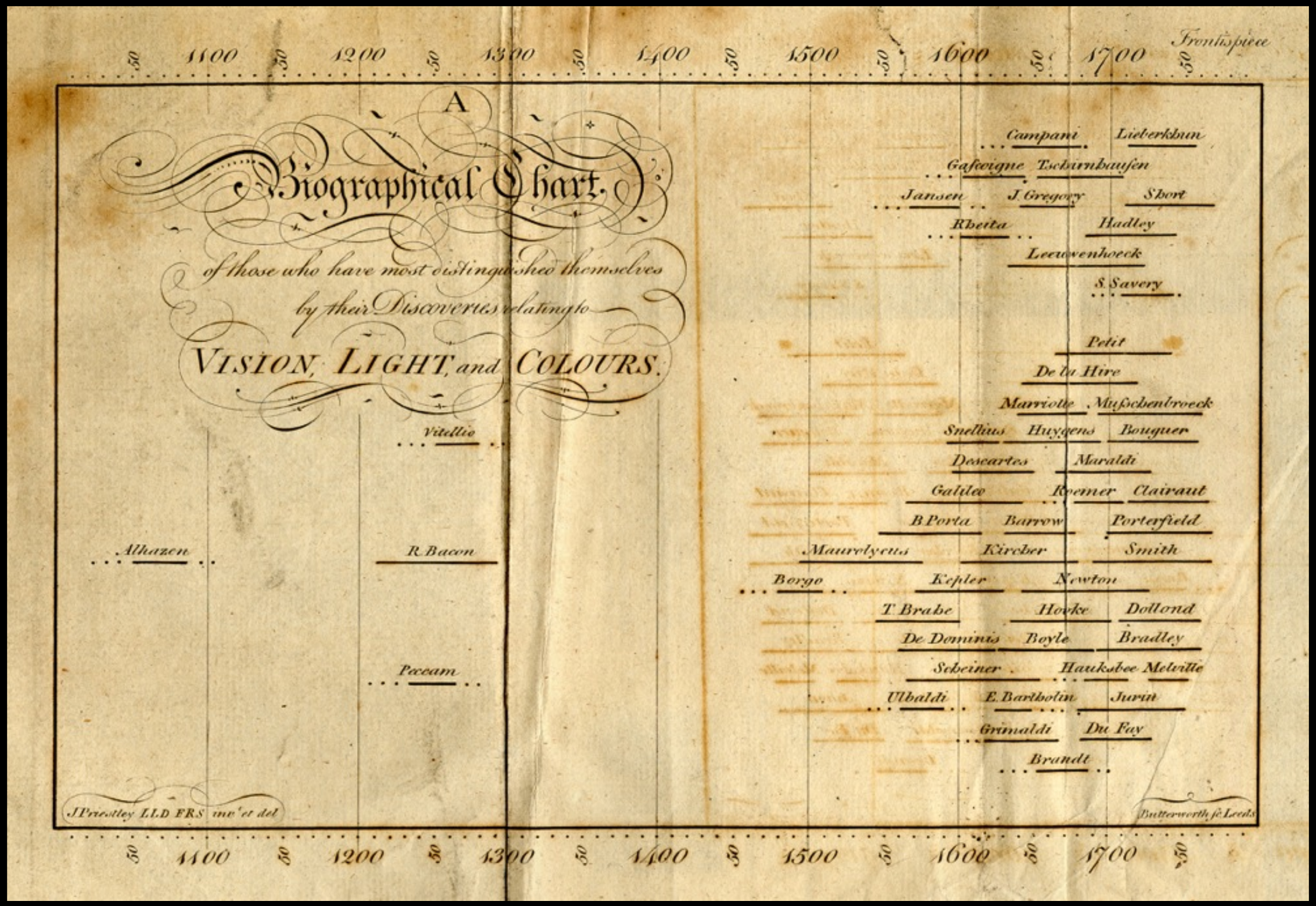
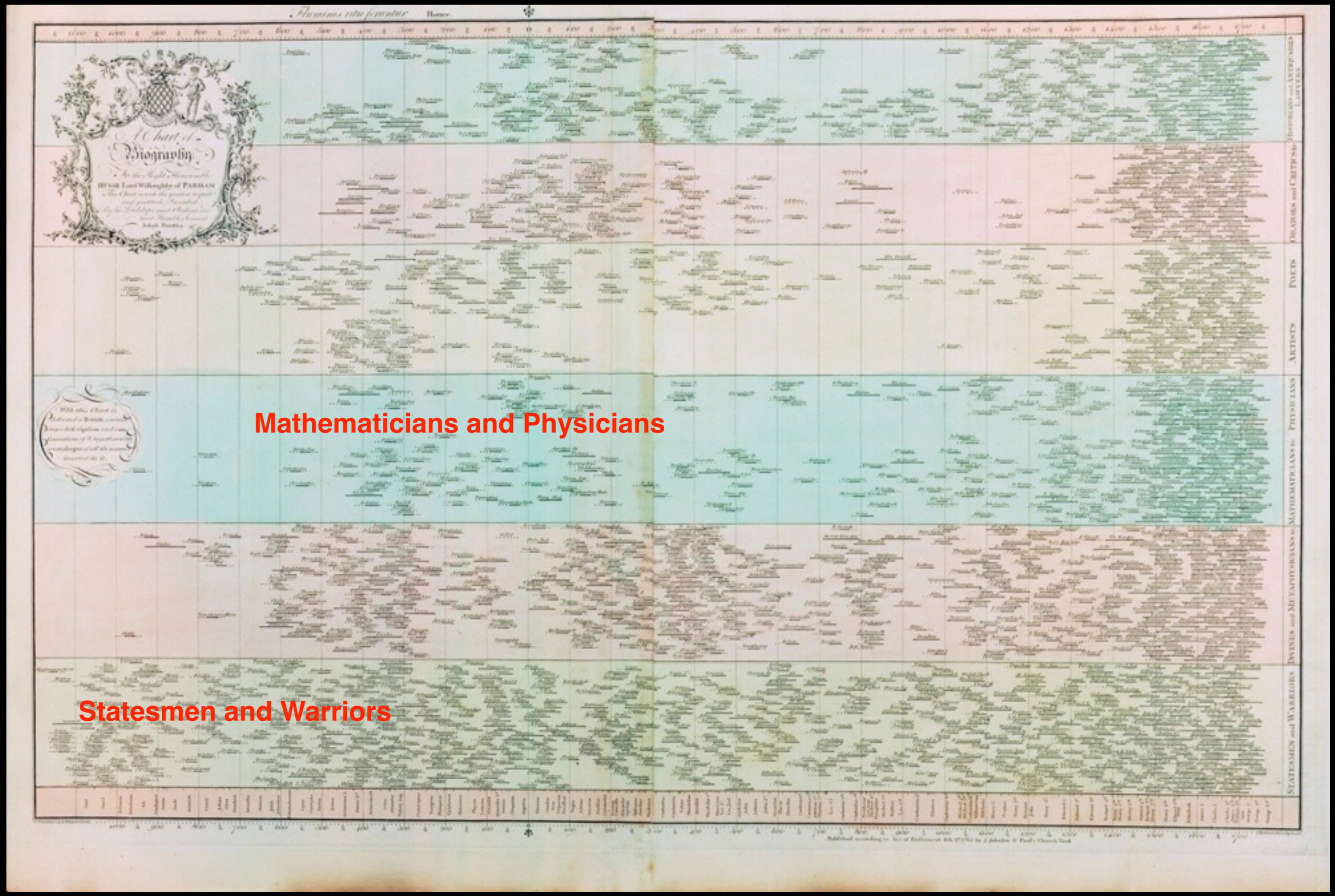


A Biographical Chart from
The History and Present State of Discoveries Relating to Vision, Light, and Colours,
Joseph Priestley, 1772



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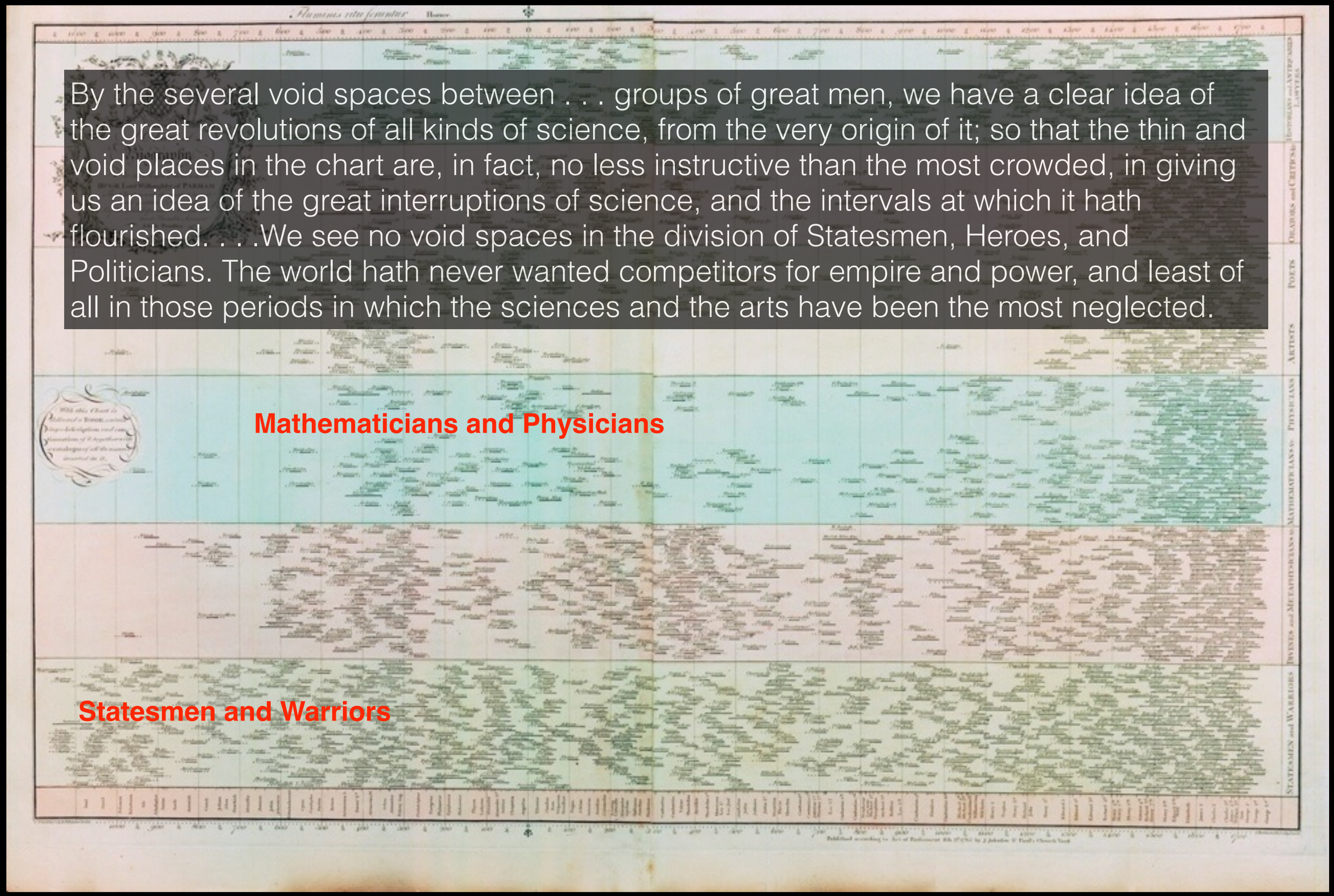

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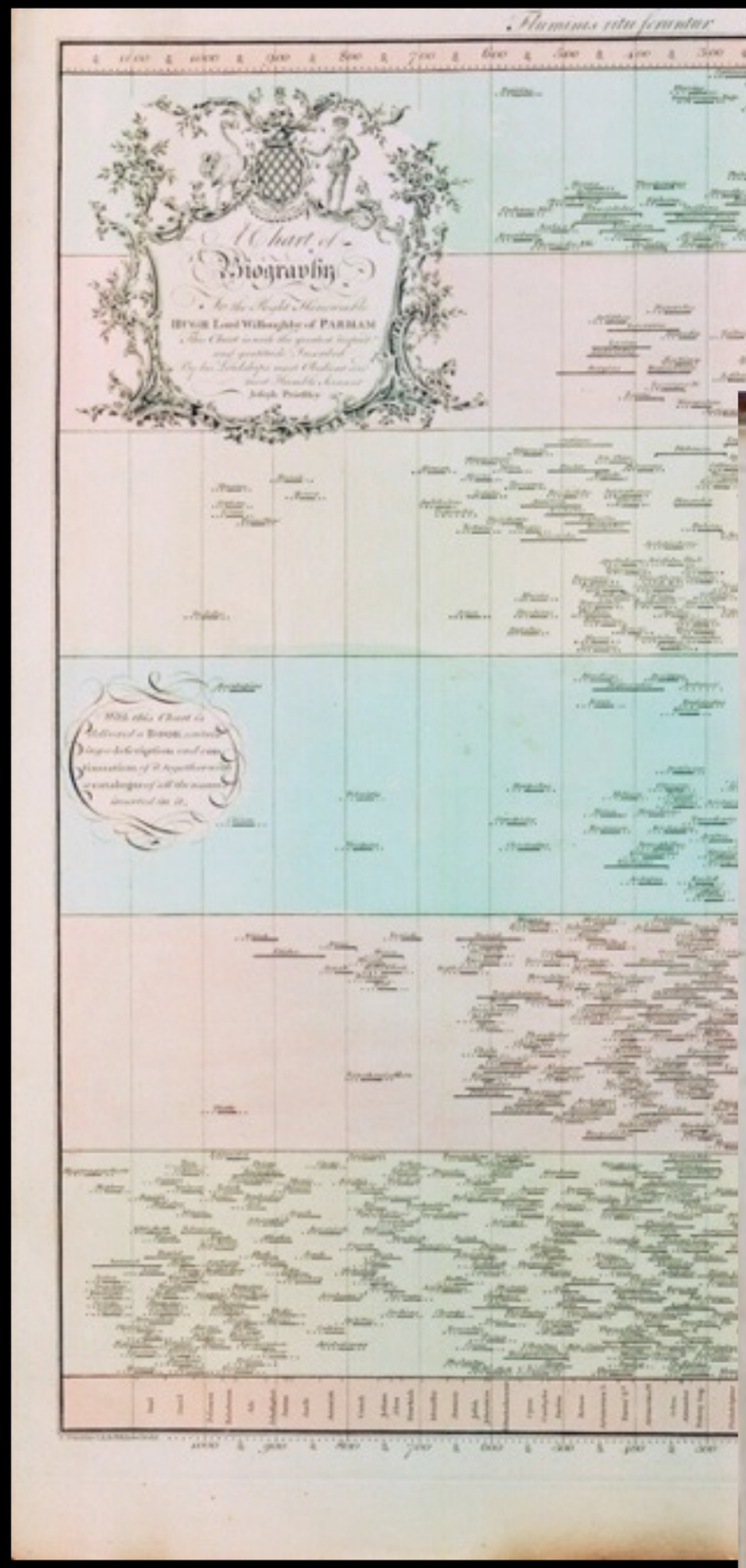

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